REMARKS

Claims 7-9 and 12 are presently in the application. Claims 1-6, 10, 11, 13 and 14 have

been canceled.

Reconsideration of the rejection of the claims under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as unpatentable

over Japan 10-225048 in view of the admitted prior art in combination with Haile (US 4,917,625)

is respectfully requested.

Claim 7 has been amended to include the language of claim 10 and to specify that the

plug tabs (18) of the other contact group (16) protrude at right angles from an underside surface

of the adapter body (20; 20') close to a second end (202) of the adapter body (20; 20').

Claim 12 has been rewritten in independent and is directed to the embodiment illustrated

in applicants' Fig. 5. As shown and described in the specification, this embodiment includes an

adapter 15" embodied as a flat plastic plate 23 and the contacts of the two contact groups 16, 17

are comprised of plug tabs 18, 19 affixed in the plastic plate 23, wherein the plug tabs 18 of the

first contact group 16 protrude from one side of the plastic plate 23 and the plug tabs 19 of the

second contact group 17 protrude from the other side of the plastic plate 23

Fig. 10 of Japan 10-225048 seems to show an adapter 72a with a contact 83. It also

appears that the contact is formed with a male terminal at each end. However, none of Japan 10-

225048, the admitted prior art and Haile teach or suggest an electric motor-and-gear assembly

for driving automotive power accessories of the type recited in claim 10 including an adapter

having an adapter body a first end with a recess formed therein in which plug tabs of one contact

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group are disposed and can be accessed and plug tabs of the other contact group protrude at right

angles from an underside surface of the adapter body close to a second end of the adapter body.

In addition, none of Japan 10-225048, the admitted prior art and Haile teach or suggest

an electric motor-and-gear assembly for driving automotive power accessories of the type recited

in claim 12 including an adapter embodied as a flat plastic plate and plug tabs of the one contact

group protrude from one side of the plastic plate and the plug tabs of the other contact group

protrude from the other side of the plastic plate.

To establish prima facie obviousness of a claimed invention, all the claim limitations

must be taught or suggested by the prior art. In re Royka, 490 F.2d 981, 180 USPQ 580 (CCPA

1974). See, also, MPEP 2143.03.

Since none of Japan 10-225048, the admitted prior art and Haile teach or suggest an

electric motor-and-gear assembly for driving automotive power accessories of the type recited

in claim 10 including an adapter having an adapter body a first end with a recess formed therein

in which plug tabs of one contact group are disposed and can be accessed and plug tabs of the

other contact group protrude at right angles from an underside surface of the adapter body close

to a second end of the adapter body or an electric motor-and-gear assembly for driving

automotive power accessories of the type recited in claim 12 including an adapter embodied as

a flat plastic plate and plug tabs of the one contact group protrude from one side of the plastic

plate and the plug tabs of the other contact group protrude from the other side of the plastic plate,

independent claims 10 and 12 are not rendered obvious by the combined teachings of the applied

prior art.

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The examiner recognizes these deficiencies of the references, but dismisses them as

"obvious design variations." However, an advantage of applicants' adapter over that taught by

the prior art is that the claimed adapters require very little installation space perpendicular to the

housing cap, making it easier to install in vehicles. None of the applied prior art references have

this advantage.

Reconsideration of the rejection of the claims under 35 USC 103(a) as unpatentable over

Yamamoto et al (US 6,203,293) in view of Yu (US 6,022,189), the admitted prior art, Sohner et

al (US 4,331,122), Gladd et al (US 4,239,319), Dolin, Jr. (US 5,192,231) and Murari et al (US

5,594,276) is respectfully requested.

Again, none of Yamamoto et al, Yu, the admitted prior art, Sohner et al, Gladd et al,

Dolin, Jr. and Murari et al teaches or suggests every limitation of independent claims 10 and 12.

Specifically, none of the applied prior art references teach or suggest an electric motor-and-gear

assembly for driving automotive power accessories of the type recited in claim 10 including an

adapter having an adapter body a first end with a recess formed therein in which plug tabs of one

contact group are disposed and can be accessed and plug tabs of the other contact group protrude

at right angles from an underside surface of the adapter body close to a second end of the adapter

body or an electric motor-and-gear assembly for driving automotive power accessories of the

type recited in claim 12 including an adapter embodied as a flat plastic plate and plug tabs of the

one contact group protrude from one side of the plastic plate and the plug tabs of the other

contact group protrude from the other side of the plastic plate. Therefore, claims 10 and 12 are

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not rendered obvious by the combined teachings of Yamamoto et al, Yu, the admitted prior art, Sohner et al, Gladd et al, Dolin, Jr. and Murari et al.

Entry of the amendment and allowance of the claims is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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